



## California National Guard Counterdrug Task Force

# The Informer

## Message from HQ

COL Richard M. H. Loesch  
CDTF Commander

What a year! I'm very proud of what we have done. This last quarter just flew by. As it came to a close we said goodbye to many of our Soldiers. Among those departing were our CSM, the J-1 and an Admin NCO, JAG personnel, the PA NCO, the J-3, the Deputy J-3 plus two Ops NCOs, the TFE Cdr. and XO, the TSH Cdr., and the DDR Cdr. We were truly hard pressed to get replacements but we were fortunate to have hired some very capable Soldiers and Airmen. To our comrades deploying, God Speed. We anxiously await your return to us and your families.

During July we successfully stood up CERFP South (now CERFP # 1) after which our TF Planning Cell turned its attention toward standing up CERFP North (or CERFP # 2) during October. In August the Counterdrug Advisory Board met to select a new Chief for NGB-CD. They choose (and the Chief NGB, LTG Blum approved) Col Earl Bell. Col Bell had been with NGB-CD for many years. He headed up the Aviation Section before being assigned as the NGB Liaison Officer to the Joint Chiefs of Staff J-5. Now that he is back at NGB-CD, we can expect him to do well by all our states and territories' CD Programs. In September, Brig Gen Anne Sobel visited the Narcotics Information Network (NIN), the Joint Harbor Operations Center (it has another name that eludes me now), the Mobile Vehicle Inspection System (MVIS), and the border engineering effort. Additionally, we were able to do a fly over the border thanks to the graciousness of the local U.S. Coast Guard station there in San Diego. The General was very impressed with the professionalism displayed by the Soldiers and Airmen she met. My thanks to all of you for making her visit so successful.

Toward the end of September the Primary Staff Officers/NCOICs and Team Commanders/NCOICs met for our Horizon II Conference. The J-3 published the Fiscal Year (FY) 05 OPORD, which lays out the focus and goals for each team



during this upcoming FY. Each team also briefed what their particular FY 05 focus is and the resourcing they may need from our Joint Staff. This was a good time for team commanders and their NCOICs to get with the primary staff, particularly since there were many new faces.

A few thoughts as we turn to FY 05:

- We will field a Quick Reaction Force (QRF) that will be split into two twenty-five person sections – one in the South, the other in the North. This force will train and qualify at least bi-annually, if not quarterly.
- We will see TEA move into a Security and Support Battalion as a MTOE line company of eight OH-58s.
- There could be legislation approved that will allow CD to move into homeland defense missions.
- We will continue to have personnel deploying and REFRADING back to us.

We held our own and then some this FY. You should be proud of your efforts in this fight against drugs, I am. This is an amazing task force. All of us remain mission focused and are successful in accomplishing the myriad of missions that come our way. Keep safety constantly in your minds. Do risk assessments to minimize the chance of anyone getting hurt or property being damaged. Above all, never let a day pass without a good thought and prayer for our deployed Soldiers, Airmen, and the loved ones they left behind. Carry On!

Forth Quarter 2004  
California National Guard  
Counterdrug Task Force

## Inside This Issue

- 2 Senior Enlisted Advisor Message**
- 2 Identity Theft**
- 2 Happy Holidays**
- 3 Safety Corner**
- 3 Transition Assistance and Job Vacancies**
- 4 Equal Opportunity Complaint Processing Procedures For Title 32/ADSW Personnel**

Counterdrug Headquarters  
Sacramento, CA

### Public Affairs Note:

For reasons of operational security, the last names of most CDTF members are not published.



# Message from the Senior Enlisted Advisor

By CMSgt Jim Alsobrook

I think we had a very informative and productive Horizon Conference this past September. I believe we all left the conference with a better understanding of our new Force structure as we align ourselves under the 49<sup>th</sup> JCSC (Joint Combat Support Command) as the 159<sup>th</sup> Joint Troop Command. COL Loesch was also able to clearly define Counterdrugs role in the MACA (Military Assistance to Civil Authorities) mission, to all Team Commanders and First Sergeants.

As we enter into the new fiscal year one of our greatest challenges will be to sustain both our Federal and State missions as well as our Counterdrug mission. I do not recall a time when the National Guard has been called upon to do so much. Let us not forget, since 9/11 our country has been at war. We must remain steadfast as adversity, hardship and deployments continue to test our task force and stretch our resources. Let us continue to keep America safe by executing the War on drugs while we transition into our new supporting role in Homeland Defense. For those deployed to the AO, let's keep them in our thoughts and prayers as we press on with our mission back home.



## Identity Theft

The Federal Trade Commission –  
[WWW.FTC.gov](http://WWW.FTC.gov)

Federal Trade Commission recently released a survey showing that 27.3 million Americans have been victims of identity theft in the last five years, including 9.9 million people in the last year alone. According to the survey, last year's identity theft losses to consumer victims was reportedly \$5 billion in out-of-pocket expenses losses to businesses and financial institutions totaled nearly \$48 billion.

### If you think your identity has been stolen, here's what to do now:

1. Contact the fraud departments of any one of the three major credit bureaus (<http://www.consumer.gov/idtheft/9>) to place a fraud alert on your credit file. The fraud alert requests creditors to contact you before opening any new accounts or making any changes to your existing accounts. As soon as the credit bureau confirms your fraud alert, the other two credit bureaus will be automatically notified to place fraud alerts, and all three credit reports will be sent to you free of charge.
2. Close the accounts that you know or believe have been tampered with or opened fraudulently. Use the ID Theft Affidavit (<http://www.ftc.gov/bcp/online/pubs/credit/affidavit.pdf>) when disputing new unauthorized accounts.
3. File a police report. Get a copy of the report to submit to your creditors and others that may require proof of the crime.
4. File your complaint ([https://rn.ftc.gov/pls/dod/widtpubls.startup?Z\\_ORG\\_CODE=PU03](https://rn.ftc.gov/pls/dod/widtpubls.startup?Z_ORG_CODE=PU03)) with the FTC. The FTC maintains a database of identity theft cases used by law enforcement agencies for investigations. Filing a complaint also helps us learn more about identity theft and the problems victims are having so that we can better assist you.



## SAFETY CORNER:



*CW5 Roy L.  
CDTF Safety*

Like the entire CA-CDTF, the safety program is subscribing to the "Simper

Gumby" (always flexible) concept of operation. Currently SSG Azariah S. is performing the duties of your full-time safety NCO. MSG Debra P. has assumed the additional duties of the Safety NCOIC in San Diego and is attending to the ever growing duties in the San Diego Area. SMSgt Daniel G. is still performing as the additional duty Safety NCO at the HQ facility north of the 36<sup>th</sup> parallel/Sacramento.

New Safety SOP CA-CDTF 385-10: As you all know from the Horizon Conference conducted in September 2004, we have a brand new safety SOP, CA-CDTF 385-10. The update was necessary to comply with some requirements from NGB CD and to fill in some confusing gaps that kept surfacing in the conduct of our safety program. The SOP is dated August 2004. We are working diligently to get

your new CD ROM produced to back up your paper copy. My intent is to provide everything, regulations, forms, training, and the whole ball of wax in one CD. Its good stuff I must admit.

DUI/Driving impaired and the Active Duty soldier: Did you know the according to DODI 6055.4, E4.2.2.4. If you are convicted of a DUI your privileges to drive on military installations is suspended for one year. Is it worth it?

Motorcycle Safety Course: Don't forget, you must complete an approved motorcycle safety course before you can ride a motorcycle as member of this organization. See the CDC's policy dated June of 2004.

ASMIS: Army Safety Management Information System. According to FORSCOM, it is mandatory for all soldiers operating a POV/GSA, TDY, PCS, or on leave must complete a risk assessment using the ASMIS system available through the Army Safety Center. This was briefed at the Horizon Conference in September. It is a great tool and will be very effective in accident prevention and risk management.

Accident Stats: The FY 2004 year closed out this way: We had 117 accidents. They cost the program \$66,731.

We lost 202 man days (those are the ones where the person did not come to work because they were SIQ and there co-workers had to pick up their work load thereby increasing risk). 88% of our lost work says were due to off duty accidents.

We sustained 554 restricted work days (those are the ones where the person cannot do their normal and customary work. This means you show up for work, but your partner still has to carry half of your work load.). 36% of the restricted work days resulted from off duty accidents.

CDTF vehicle accidents=58 (35 accidents involved CA-CDTF operators, 23 by other folks using our vehicles.)

POV: 25 POV accidents occurred this FY. This includes horses and bicycles. POV accidents took a very heavy toll on us this year. We are going to mount a very aggressive campaign to reduce POV accidents for FY 2005. One course of action. (COA) is the use of ASMIS and other risk management tools.

Personal injury: We sustained 29 personal injury accidents on and off duty. All revolve around risk management and failure to follow standards.

## Transition Assistance and Job Vacancies

Below are the most recent job vacancies within the Counterdrug Task Force. Soldiers and Airmen returning from deployment have first priority on all vacancies. There are several Team Commander and Primary/Special Staff backfill announcements out. For more information and the forms needed to apply, please visit the CDTF website at [www.calguard.ca.gov/CDTF](http://www.calguard.ca.gov/CDTF). Several new vacancies will be posted soon so keep checking the site.

Tour #	Open / Close	Position	Location
CD 05-13	26 Oct04 / 31 Dec04	Supply Sergeant (Perm)	Sacramento
CD 05-19	10 Nov04 / 31 Dec04	Engineer (Perm)	San Diego
CD 05-20	10 Nov04 / 31 Dec04	Intelligence Analyst	Statewide
CD 05-21	15 Nov04 / 31 Dec04	Mobile Vehicle Insp Sys (MVIS) Opr (Temp)	Statewide
CD 05-23	22 Nov04 / 31 Dec04	Drug Demand Reduction Prevention NCO (Perm)	Bakersfield
CD 05-24	17 Dec04 / 17 Jan04	Drug Demand Reduction Region Chief (Temp)	Sacramento
CD 05-25	17 Dec04 / 17 Jan05	Drug Demand Reduction Prevention NCO (Perm)	Redding

# EQUAL OPPORTUNITY (EO) COMPLAINT PROCESSING PROCEDURES FOR TITLE 32/ADSW PERSONNEL

By MSG Debra P.  
CDTF EO Advisor

The EO complaint process is designed to address grievances specifically related to sexual harassment and discrimination on the basis of race, color, national origin, religion, gender, or reprisal. The chain of command is the primary channel for handling allegations and correcting incidents of discrimination or sexual harassment.

Although using the chain of command is strongly encouraged, it does not serve as the only channel available to the complainant. Should the complainant feel uncomfortable in filing a complaint with the chain of command, or should the complaint be against a member of the chain of command, the below listed agencies serve as alternate channels available to the complainant:

- Higher echelon in the chain of command
- Equal Opportunity Advisor
- Provost Marshal
- Staff Judge Advocate (JAG)
- Inspector General
- Chaplain
- EO Hotline

EO complaints fall into two categories:

## **Informal and Formal**

- An informal complaint, although it may be initially verbal, it should be put in writing. These complaints may be resolved by the individual, another member, or a person in the complainant's chain of command. (However, the only means of appeal of an informal complaint is to file a formal complaint.) Typically, those issues that can be taken care of informally can be resolved through mediation, discussion, problem identification, and clarification of the issue.
- A formal complaint follows a prescribed process as outlined in NGR 600-22/ANGI 36-3, and is one that the complainant files in writing and swears to the accuracy of the information.

A complainant files an informal or formal complaint by submitting a NGB Form 333 (Discrimination Complaint in the Army and Air National Guard). Your EOA or EOR will assist you with completing the form.

Complainants are required to receive written feedback from the commander. Written feedback may state that appropriate action is being considered/taken, but will not delineate the specific actions. Ideally, the commander should meet with the complainant to present orally previous written feedback and to discuss the findings of the investigations and actions taken to resolve the issue.

**Timelines.** The complainant has -180 calendar days from the date of the alleged incident to file. This time limit was established to set a reasonable parameter for investi-

gating and resolving complaints (e.g., availability of witnesses, accurate recollection of events, and timely remedial action). The commander may, at his or her discretion, choose to investigate and take action on complaints that are more than 180 days old.

The commander has 14 calendar days from the date of receipt to conduct an inquiry or investigation. Should the commander determine that full investigation is required, the complaint is forwarded to the Counterdrug Task Force Commander, who has authority to appoint an AR 15-6 investigating officer.

The investigating officer will provide a written report on the results of the investigation IAW AR 15-6. The Counterdrug Task Force Commander appointing the AR 15-6 investigation will review the facts and take appropriate action.

AR 15-6 investigating officers and the EOA must meet and review the report of the investigation prior to submission of the report to the appointing authority.

**Appeals.** Should the complainant be dissatisfied with the disposition of his or her complaint, he or she has the right to appeal. The complainant must file an appeal in writing on the NGB Form 333, to the next higher commander within his or her chain of command within seven calendar days. Appeals solely based on action taken against perpetrator(s) are not a valid basis for an appeal. Commanders exercising General Court Martial (GCM) Authority are final decision authority.

**Reprisals.** All personnel are prohibited from taking any action that discourages individuals from filing a complaint or seeking assistance in resolving an EO issue. Personnel are also prohibited from taking any disciplinary or other adverse action against a soldier or airmen for filing a complaint, seeking assistance, or cooperating with an investigating officer. However, this does not preclude taking actions against those who file fraudulent complaints or give false statements.

It is the responsibility of the chain of command to ensure that all complainants are protected against reprisal or retaliation for filing EO complaints.

## **DOD Sexual Assault Hotline:**

The DoD announced a toll-free number which has been established for people who want to contact or provide information to the DoD Task Force on Care for Victims of Sexual Assault.

**(800) 497-6261**

**MSG Debra P.**

**Equal Opportunity Advisor**

**Commercial: (619) 545-0101**

**DSN: 735-0101**

**Pager: (800) 606-7023**